

REMARKS

Applicant responds to the Office Action mailed December 2, 2004 and requests reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowance of certain claims and the indication of the allowability of other claims.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of the remaining claims 1, 2, 4, 10 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Applicant submits that there is lacking the necessary motivation to combine references as has been done in the Office Action. The Brown patent has an internal float and is explicitly directed to the problems that arise with an internal float. There is no discussion in Brown of external floats. Therefore, one would not look to a patent such as Mulrooney et al. to modify Brown, except as directed to do so by applicant's own disclosure, which is an impermissible modification.

Further, new independent claims 34 and 35 are presented and are respectfully submitted to be allowable.

Applicant requests a telephone interview with the Examiner to discuss these claims prior to issuance of a written Office Action on the merits.

In view of the foregoing, applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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